

Media Alert E-Day Tampa Bay

Tampa, Florida. (October 4, 2002)

In celebration of Tampa Bay's newest architectural achievement, the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority invites the news media for a "sneak preview" of Tampa International Airport's new Airside E on Friday, October 11, 2002, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The news media, along with Airport employees, will be the first guests to visit the new \$120 million, 275,000 sq. ft. facility. Arrangements have been made for representatives to be present for interviews such as officials from the Aviation Authority, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, Air Canada, HMS Host, Beers Skanska, Bombardier, Transportation Security Administration, Lockheed Martin and more. Schedule to be released next week.

Other events include: The Tampa Bay community is invited for a tour on Saturday, October 12 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Parking will be free of charge behind the post office and continuous tours of the new home to Delta Air Lines, United Airlines and Air Canada. There will be entertainment by local musical acts, tours of the new children's play area, the Delta Crown Room and a video of the new state of the art high-speed baggage system.

Arts and crafts for the kids and they can even be fingerprinted by the latest in identification technology. Food and beverage will be available from the innovative new airside concession concepts from HMS Host at reduced prices.

Airside E will also be the new home of seven original murals by St. Petersburg artist George Snow Hill. Commissioned back in 1939 for the original Peter O. Knight Airport, the murals have been restored and the collection will be together on display for the first time in 37 years.

On Monday, October 14, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. is the Airside E Dedication. The ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. to the music of the Pinellas Park High School (Patriots) Marching Band and will be televised live on the Mayor's Hour, City of Tampa television program. Joining the dedication is Florida Governor Jeb Bush; Aviation Authority Chairman Al Austin; Mayor Dick Greco; Pat Frank, Chairman of the Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners; Gerald A. Bemis, Vice President, Line Maintenance, Delta Air Lines; Joseph F. Laughlin, Vice President Airport Operations, United Airlines and Ron Waters, Customer Service Manager, Air Canada.

The media is welcome to participate in any of these events. Please call the Public Information and Community Relations department for any questions.

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